

# WATERBURY REC SUMMER RECAP



## SUMMER CAMP 2024

Waterbury Rec Summer Camp started on June 24, 2024 with five themed camps and one age-based camp in the heart of Waterbury Village. These camps - Action & Energy, Adventure, Creative Kids Camp, Nature Exploration, Young Innovators, and our Kindergarten Camp - focused on community connections, teamwork, and having fun together.

As in past years, campers visited the pool throughout the week, a slight change from daily visitations of previous summers due to safety for the number of people in a pool at a time. All campers also participated in swim lessons as part of camp registration.

In each of the themed camps, campers learned new skills, built and practiced sports and crafts, and played with old and new friends. Every camp also had visiting educators and performers throughout the summer who shared information and talents with campers.

At Waterbury Recreation we strive to have children and youth participants focus on the outdoors, being in nature, and building communication skills with their peers. Our Department is almost all screen-free, with only the occasional movie on a rainy day or watching the 2024 Olympics!

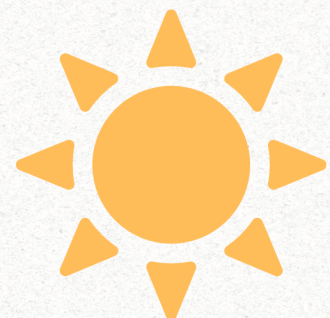
Our program goals are to serve our community, meet child care needs for families, and help support healthy growth for children in Waterbury and beyond. We do this through staff training, creating an environment based in respect, and treating campers with kindness regardless of family background, socio-economics, race, or any other factor.



Waterbury Recreation employed 47 staff members at summer camp and the pool, most of which either attended Rec programs themselves, or are members of our community. Waterbury is proud to employ local young adults in our programs and strives to provide a learning environment to staff members.

All of our staff are First Aid and AED certified and receive sexual harassment training. Our camp staff are trained Mandated Reporters.

Summer activities would not be possible without terrific staff committed to having a successful camp and public pool.



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Waterbury Rec had 243 unique campers attend summer camp for either full summer sessions or weekly sessions.

**243**  
campers



**71%**  
from  
Waterbury



Just under half of campers attended for the entire summer, and 52% attended for just a week. Over 71% of campers were Waterbury residents.

Summer Camp provided 9558 hours of care to campers, offering camp from 8am - 5pm for 8 weeks of summer

**9558**  
hours



**431**  
swimmers



431 campers and registered public received swim lessons, building the life skill during the pool's summer hours.



We had eight performers and educators help us learn at camp this summer - Dave Muska, nature and tracking expert; Dinoman, science performer; Library visits and children's garden collaboration; Ice Center skating day; Ben & Jerry's factory tours; Waterbury Common Market gardening education; Audubon Vermont, naturalist education; Chris Young, disc golf instructor.

## CARING FOR CAMPERS

Free breakfasts and lunches were offered to all families during registration. For summer 2024, over 900 meals were provided to campers to ensure that they had a nutrition-packed day! We partnered with Essex-Westford School District to provide meals.

Waterbury Recreation provided scholarships for 6 campers to attend camp for the entire summer. These scholarships are possible through generous donations and fundraising. The Alchemist and Cold Hollow Cider Mill donated substantial funding to be able to provide financial assistance to families. Activities at Recreation programs such as paint nights, also helped fund scholarships. Thank you!

In total, Waterbury Recreation Summer Camp provided 9558 hours of care to campers, helping support children's summers, and also supporting working families in our community!

Camp would not be possible without generous contributions, partnerships, and relationships with local organizations and community members. Many of our donors are listed below

# THANK YOU!

The Alchemist  
Audubon Center of Vermont  
Ben & Jerry's  
Best Western of Waterbury  
Chris Young  
Cold Hollow Cider Mill  
Cross Vermont Trail  
Dinoman!  
The Ice Center

Ondatra Adventures  
St Andrew's Church  
Stackpole & French Law Offices  
The Waterbury Ambulance Service  
The Waterbury Common Market  
The Waterbury Community Path  
The Waterbury Fire Department  
The Waterbury Library  
Wesley's United Methodist Church